

# SPAC Autumn→Spring Season 2024–2025

SPAC Season Program offers a lineup of the world's masterpiece plays directed in a modern style. This year, three plays will be staged. The first is "The White Hare of Inaba-Navajo," a popular play held at SPAC that was originally written and performed as a commissioned work from Musée du Quai Branly in France. The second is "The Elephant," written by BETSUYAKU Minoru and directed by EMMA (TOYONAGA Junko), a promising director whose work will be performed at SPAC for the first time. The third is the long-awaited replay of "The Menam River Japanese," written by ENDO Shusaku and directed by IMAI Tomohiko, which was originally scheduled to be performed in February 2020 but was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With these selected works, we look forward to seeing you at our theater in the seasons from autumn to spring.



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## The White Hare of Inaba-Navajo

Conception and direction: MIYAGI Satoshi  
Text: collective writing of KUBOTA Azumi and the troops  
Music: TANAKAWA Hiroko

**19, 20, 27, October**  
**3, 4, 9 November at 2:00pm**  
**Venue: Shizuoka Arts Theatre**

**7 DEC. 1:30pm, at Hamamatsu Social Welfare and Exchange Center**  
**21 DEC. 1:30pm at Numazu Civic Culture Center**

Did you know that the story of the white hare of Inaba may also be found in the myths of an indigenous community in North America? It is a majestic and festive musical play that interprets a hypothesis advocated by Claude Lévi-Strauss, one of the greatest philosophers, anthropologists, and ethnologists of the 20th Century, with a theatrical imagination.

## The Elephant [New Creation]

Direction: EMMA (TOYONAGA Junko)  
Text: BETSUYAKU Minoru

**7 December at 6:30pm**  
**8, 14, 15 December at 2:00pm**  
**Venue: Shizuoka Arts Theatre**

SCOT SUMMER SEASON 2024

**7, 8 SEP. at Blackbox Theatre, Toga Art Park of Toyama Prefecture**

The "patient," hospitalized with a keloid scar on his back caused by an atomic bomb, receives a visit by his nephew. This historic masterpiece was written in 1962 for the new company Jiyu Butai, formed jointly with SUZUKI Tadashi (the first General Artistic Director of SPAC), and it had an enormous impact on generations thereafter. It is directed by EMMA, a promising theater director.



## The Menam River Japanese

Direction: IMAI Tomohiko Text: ENDO Shusaku  
**18, 19 January, 15, 16 February, 1, 2 March 2025**  
**at 2:00pm**  
**Venue: Shizuoka Arts Theatre**

The Menam River Japanese is a grand-scale historical play on the turbulent life of YAMADA Nagamasa, a hero from Shizuoka Prefecture who was given an important post in the Ayutthaya Kingdom (Thailand) at the beginning of the 17th century. The direction by IMAI Tomohiko, artfully interpreting the relationships among people is brilliant.

All performances with English surtitles

More Information ▶ <https://spac.or.jp>



### Ticket Sales Start

#### #1 The White Hare of Inaba-Navajo

〈Shizuoka〉 ◆Prior Reservation for Membership begins: Sat. 31 AUG. at 10:00am  
◆Advance Tickets Sale begins: Sat. 7 SEP. at 10:00am

〈Hamamatsu & Numazu〉 ◆In October

#### #2 The Elephant, #3 The Menam River Japanese ◆In October

"The White Hare of Inaba-Navajo" "The Menam River Japanese"  
Produced and organized by SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center  
Approved by Fujinokuni Arts Festival  
Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan through the Japan Arts Council, Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities (for "The White Hare of Inaba-Navajo")

"The Elephant" Comission: Japan Cultural Expo 2.0  
Organized by Toga Cultural Foundation, Japan Arts Council, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan  
Co-hosted by SPAC-Shizuoka Performing Arts Center



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